

Saint Vincent & The Grenadines Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)



FACT SHEET

The Saint Vincent & The Grenadines GYTS includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use as well as information on five determinants of tobacco use: access/availability and price, environmental tobacco smoke exposure (ETS), cessation, media and advertising, and school curriculum. These determinants are components that should be included in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Saint Vincent & The Grenadines GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 7-8 and forms 1-3,

conducted in 2001. A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Saint Vincent & The Grenadines. At the first stage, schools were selected with probability proportional to enrollment size. At the second stage, classes were randomly selected and all students in selected classes were eligible to participate. The school response rate was 100%, the student response rate was 78.4%, and the overall response rate was 78.4%. A total of 1511 students participated in the Saint Vincent & The Grenadines GYTS.

Prevalence

35.7% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Male = 43.0%, Female = 27.7%)
24.2% currently use any tobacco product* (Male = 27.3%, Female = 19.9%)
15.2% currently smoke cigarettes (Male = 17.6%, Female = 11.5%)
14.8% currently use other tobacco products* (Male = 16.9%, Female = 12.4%)
12.8% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

29.8% think boys and 18.6% think girls who smoke have more friends
8.3% think boys and 7.7% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

39.9% usually smoke at home
13.8% buy cigarettes in a store
49.0% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Environmental Tobacco Smoke

32.5% live in homes where others smoke
62.2% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
71.0% think smoking should be banned from public places
67.0% think smoke from others is harmful to them
30.7% have one or more parents who smoke
7.0% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

77.8% want to stop smoking
83.9% tried to stop smoking during the past year
82.0% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

78.4% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
65.9% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
60.5% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
16.7% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
9.8% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

56.8% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
43.3% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
54.8% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

* other tobacco products include marijuana

Highlights

- 24% of students currently use some form of tobacco; 15% currently smoke cigarettes; 15% use other forms of tobacco.
- ETS exposure is high – 1 in 3 students live in homes where others smoke; 6 in 10 are exposed to smoke in public places.
- 7 in 10 students think smoking should be banned in public places.
- Almost 7 in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Almost 8 in 10 smokers want to stop.
- Almost 8 in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; 2 in 3 saw pro-cigarette ads in the past 30 days.